

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 09377 271229Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
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EXDIS

EO 11652N/A
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJ: PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: WARSAW 9195, 9333, 9159

1. THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM WOJCIECH ZIEMBINSKI OF THE DISSIDENT JOURNAL OPINIA, STATING THAT ITS REQUEST FOR ACCREDITATION TO THE PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE HAD BEEN REJECTED AND LISTING THREE QUESTIONS FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE PRESIDENT. AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE LETTER FOLLOWS.

BEGIN TEXT.

OPINIA EDITORIAL STAFF

CZERNIAKOWSKA 34, APT 120

TEL. 400-180

WARSAW, DECEMBER 22, 1977

UNITED STATES EMBASSY, PRESS ATTACHE

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DEAR SIRS:

THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF OPINIA, JOURNAL OF THE MOVEMENT FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS, APPROACHED THE RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF POLAND, AMBASSADOR S. STANISZEWSKI, ABOUT THE ISSUANCE OF AN INVITATION TO

THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENT CARTER IN WARSAW.
OUR LETTER WAS RETURNED WITHOUT A WORD OF CLARIFICATION.
WE UNDERTOOK AN INTERVENTION, DIRECTING ANOTHER LETTER
TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, BUT WE FEAR,
HOWEVER, THAT WE WILL NOT RECEIVE AN INVITATION. IN
THIS SITUATION, WE TAKE THE LIBERTY OF PRESENTING THREE
QUESTIONS WHICH WE INTENDED TO POSE TO THE PRESIDENT
DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE. WE WILL BE GRATEFUL TO
HAVE THE TEXT OF THESE QUESTIONS PASSED TO THE
PRESIDENT -- TOGETHER WITH A REQUEST FOR A WRITTEN
ANSWER, SINCE -- AS EVERYTHING INDICATES -- WE WILL
NOT BE ABLE TO ASK THESE QUESTIONS DIRECTLY AT THE
PRESS CONFERENCE.

HERE ARE THE QUESTIONS:

1. DO YOU THINK, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE BELGRADE
MEETING CAN AND SHOULD CREATE A SYSTEM OF PERMANENT
MONITORING OF THE REALIZATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN EUROPE,
AMONG OTHER WAYS, THROUGH THE CREATION OF AN INTER-
NATIONAL BODY SUPERVISING COMPLIANCE WITH DECISIONS
WHICH WERE CODIFIED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF
HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE UN AND WHICH GOVERNMENTS
OBLIGED THEMSELVES TO COMPLY WITH IN THE FINAL ACT
OF THE CSCE CONFERENCE IN HELSINKI?

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2. IF MOVEMENTS AND PARTIES INDEPENDENT OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF POLAND BEGAN TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVITY IN
POLAND, WOULD THAT, IN THE PRESIDENT'S OPINION, HAVE
INFLUENCE ON THE POLICY OF DETENTE IN EUROPE -- AND
OF SO, WHAT SORT?

3. THE U.S., AS WELL AS POLAND, RATIFIED THE
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. DOES THAT
MEAN, IN THE OPINION OF THE PRESIDENT, THAT THE
GOVERNMENTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES UNDERTOOK THESE
OBLIGATIONS MUTUALLY, FORESEEING THAT NON-COMPLIANCE
WITH THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONVENTIONS BY ONE SIDE
IN THE AREA OF ITS JURISDICTION JUSTIFIES A
PRONOUNCEMENT OF THE OTHER SIDE DEMANDING THE
FULFILLMENT OF THAT OBLIGATION? END TEXT.

2. COMMENT: WHILE I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE
FOR THE PRESIDENT TO COMMENT, AS RECOMMENDED SEPTTEL,
ON THE INABILITY OF NON-ESTABLISHMENT JOURNALISTS
TO OBTAIN ACCREDITATION FOR THE PRESS CONFERENCE, I DO NOT THINK
HE SHOULD REFER SPECIFICALLY TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN
THIS FASHION. IF HE WERE GOING TO DO THAT, WE SHOULD SOLICIT

QUESTIONS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (EG KSS-KOR) AND INDIVIDUALS
WHO ARE NOT BEING ACCREDITED TO ATTEND THE PRESS CONFERENCE.
OTHERWISE, WE WOULD BE PLAYING FAVORITIES.
END COMMENT.
DAVIES

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